

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim 3 23, wherein the longitudinal struts include roughened surfaces to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

6. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim 3 23, further comprising a plurality of vessel engaging members with pointed ends extending from the ~~longitudinal~~ longitudinally extending struts to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

7. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim ~~24~~ 23, wherein the filter is composed of shape memory material.

8. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim 3 23, wherein opposing ends of at least one of the ~~longitudinal~~ longitudinally extending struts are out of phase.

9. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim 3 23, wherein the ~~longitudinal~~ longitudinally extending struts are spaced circumferentially about 60 degrees apart.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim ~~24~~ 23, wherein at least one of the struts has varying widths along its length, the strut having an angled portion, a portion of the strut substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the filter having a first width and ~~an~~ the angled portion of the strut having a second width less than the first width.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein the ~~longitudinal~~ longitudinally extending struts include a plurality of vessel engaging members extending therefrom to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein end portions of at least one of the ~~longitudinal~~ longitudinally extending struts are twisted out of phase.

16-22 (canceled)

23. (new) A vessel filter comprising a tubular member having a longitudinal axis and a plurality of elongated cutouts formed therein extending along the longitudinal axis and forming a series of elongated spaced apart struts separated by the cutouts, the filter movable between a first insertion configuration and a second deployed configuration, each of the spaced apart struts in the deployed configuration forming longitudinally extending struts extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the filter to form a mounting section and each including a first inwardly bend region at a first end bending towards a center of the filter to transition to a first filter section and a second inwardly bend region at a second end bending towards a center of the filter to transition to a second filter section, the first filter section terminating in a first tubular portion and the second filter section terminating in a second tubular portion, the first bend region positioned distal of the first tubular portion and the second bend region positioned proximal of the second tubular portion such that a first imaginary line tangent to the first bend region does not intersect the first tubular portion and a second imaginary line tangent to the second bend region does not intersect the second tubular portion such that the first imaginary line is distal of the first tubular portion and the second imaginary line is proximal of the second tubular portion.

24. (new) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the struts have a length exceeding a diameter of the filter

25. (new) The vessel filter of claim 23, further comprising curved ribs extending from adjacent struts.

26. (new) The vessel filter of claim 25, wherein the curved ribs terminate in a joined region.

27. (new) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the struts at the first filter section originate from a proximal end of the first tubular portion and at the second filter section originate from a distal end of the second tubular portion.